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## Providing Worthy Use of Leisure Time for the High School Student

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# Providing Worthy Use of Leisure Time for the High School Student

As Worked Out by a Committee on Vocational Education

WITH the rapidly spreading realization that the old formal discipline method of teaching will no longer hold children of high school age, educators have been striving for a workable solution of the problem and their efforts have resulted in the "New Aims of Education," the physical, vocational, social-civic and avocational.

While the High School Club program includes all four aims it emphasizes most the social-civic and avocational aims. School boards and superintendents are caring for the reorganization of the curriculum, but to the individual teacher falls the responsibility of helping fill the spare time of the pupil.

The club work has a double purpose—that of keeping the student busy and therefore away from evil, and that of advancing him in social, civic and intellectual and professional ways.

Since the club as a whole is a Better Citizenship Club, it will give them the training necessary for good citizenship, will develop the social instincts and will result in a more rounded and complete education.

The divisions of the Club will care for the development of the individual along whatever line he chooses—it not only helps him train his abilities but serves as a guide in his choice of vocation or avocation.

The work of the club will in general follow the problem method and will develop socialized recitation.

Where localities and individuals will alter the details of a club organization, the program that we have worked out is only a skeleton, subject, to alterations and revisions to fit the need of the organization.

All details are of course important, but the big idea, the foundation of all high school club work is to socialize the high school training, and to supply a profitable expenditure of leisure time. These

two aims, properly carried out, could not do otherwise than make better citizens.

## Citizenship Club

The citizenship club is composed of all the pupils in the high school. The purpose of it is to establish a living consciousness in the pupils of the common purposes of inter-dependence of their community life, national as well as local. to cultivate a spirit and habit of mutual service and team work for the common good and to develop an immediate attitude toward government, local and national, resulting from the service organization, and means of securing team work.

Citizenship is taught as a regular high school subject, and other activities, such as mentioned in the general program, contribute greatly to the making of citizens. This club, in addition, by bringing the whole student body together, in discussing social, political and industrial problems, develops a deeper spirit of democracy.

Good citizenship results from a combination of three factors, altruistic emotions, correct ideas and desirable habits of response or in other words, the feeling, intellect and will. The adolescent period is essentially a period of emotional development. Impressions received at this time become permanent, so advantage can be taken of these facts in developing citizenship.

The following activities make up the program for a Citizenship Club:

School assembly meetings where stimulating talks, inspiring readings and stirring music are given. Perhaps no art has so refining an influence on the emotions as has music.

Representation of the serious social conditions and social needs thru dramatics, slides or moving pictures followed by the study of their causes, preventions and remedies.

Visits by pupils under supervision of teachers to localities, institutions and agencies that reveal in concrete forms conditions and practices that challenge the interests and attention of all good citizens.

Discussion of current news from newspapers and magazines.

## Community Work

Civic service projects or activities as "clean town" campaign, "tree planting" etc.

Dramatic projects including commemoration festivals and pageants.

## Information and Application of:

1. **Civic habits**—as orderliness and cleanliness in public places, individual responsibility for public property, relation to different races and nationalities in a community, as fellow citizens.

2. **Civic knowledge**—as to various industries of the neighborhood, essentials of local government as it affects daily life activities carried on in public buildings, that are essential to the execution of pupil's function as citizen (Fire and police dept., etc.)

3. **Civic service**—to be effective in the construction and corrective duties of a citizen (condition of streets, tenement houses), to learn how to apply public agencies for constructive and remedial service, to cultivate a willingness to assist in emergencies requiring governmental action, to check disease due to social causes, to cultivate a willingness to conform to the will of a majority as it is expressed in laws, (school laws, child labor laws, etc.)

4. **Use of civic agencies**—to know how to utilize services of public departments, as playgrounds, library, also of semi-public agencies, as museums, telephone, telegraph, to learn to use important publications of various government

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Points	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
Advisory Board or Gov. Body	Member of Judiciary Committee	Class Representative	Vice-Pres. Sec. Treas.	Point Supervisor		President
Clubs	Members	Member of Major Committee	Vice-Pres. Sec. Treas.	President		
Debate Team		Man of Team	Member of Team			
High School Plays	Bus. Mang. Costume	Minor Part	Lead in Play			
High School Paper		Member of Staff		Bus. Mang.	Editor	
Athletic Teams Boys and Girls	Reserve	Mang. of Teams	Varsity		Captain	
Class		Member of Major Committee		Vice-Pres. Sec.	President	

## Providing Worthy Use of Leisure Time for the High School Student

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agencies—maps, surveys, reports, to learn how to use the privilege of a voter.

### Organization of The Clubs

There shall be one main club known as the Better Citizenship Club of which every one will be a member. Other smaller clubs can be formed whenever at least six students feel a need for some particular Club. The clubs will include both boys and girls. A person is not eligible to any club until after his first semester and he must be passing in all his work.

Officers of the clubs will be changed every semester and they must have a scholastic standing of 85 percent and they are elected by ballot. One or two members of the faculty depending on the size of the club will act as advisors.

There shall also be an Advisory Board or Governing Board who will have charge of the government of the school. This Board will be made up of a representative from each class, the president chosen at large, and two Faculty members one of whom will be permanent. The Vice-President of this Board will be chairman of the different divisional clubs. This Board contains a Judiciary Committee who handles all cases of cheating, gambling and the such.

There shall be a system of points whereby a few students will not hold all the honors. No person is allowed to have more than ten points per semester or more than twelve points at any one time. This point system has been worked out with the above aim in mind.

### Divisions of Club

The large club shall be divided into three main divisions: literary, activity, and vocational. Under each of these main divisions will come several separate clubs; the kind and number depending on the high school.

There are hosts of possibilities under each of these divisions. For example under literary we may have an English Club, a citizenship club, and a journalistic club, to include a study of Modern Magazines, and perhaps give instructions in the proper use of the library.

In the English Club will come the opportunity for moral guidance and establishment of high ideals thru the study of good literature, and, in the Citizenship Club, the students will learn how to adjust themselves to the group and to society as a whole. While, in the Journalistic Club, they will learn to know literature and will condemn bad literature. It will also strengthen their choice of ideals and standards.

In the activity group there may be a Dramatic Club, an Athletic Club, an Arts and Crafts Club, and a Music Club. In the Dramatic Club will come opportunities for moral guidance, individuality, and leaderships, and in the Athletic Club we will find opportunities for realizing the health aim in making for cleaner, better athletics, and a realization of the avocational aim or play instinct. While in the Arts and Crafts Club will come expression of the creative and imitative instincts, and in the Music Club, composed of the Boys' and Girls' Glee

Clubs, etc., will come expression of the avocational aim, and thru songs, an aid to moral guidance.

The vocational group will contain the Home Economics Club, the Agricultural Club, the Teacher Training Club and the Commercial Club. The general purpose of this club will be the realization of one of the modern aims of education, the vocational aim. It will help the student in choosing his life work by helping the student who goes directly to work after leaving high school, in giving him practical knowledge that he can use, and by

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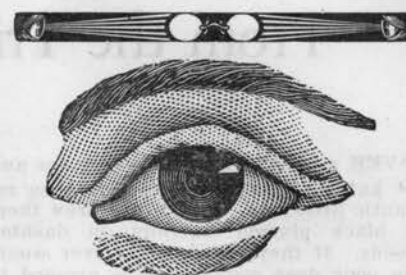
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